

**BUILDING AFRICA'S
FOOD FUTURE.**

Build in Rwanda. Scale Across Africa.

AN URGENT NEED

Across the world, food systems are changing in nearly all of their facets. Climate and environmental pressures, demographic changes, shifting diets, and the demand for resilient supply chains require food systems transformation at all levels. The Rwanda Food Innovation Partnership is a platform driven to find solutions to these food systems challenges, today and tomorrow. We're looking to envision, design, commercialize, and scale innovations across African food systems that:

- Can drive healthier outcomes,
- Can be more environmentally friendly,
- Can create more jobs and improved livelihoods.

The Rwanda Food Innovation Partnership is a platform that can turn fragmented effort into coordinated action, advancing food systems innovation across Africa and beyond, with Rwanda as the launch pad.





RFIP – A SINGLE PATHWAY FOR FOOD INNOVATION

Rwanda Food Innovation Partnership (RFIP) serves as a multi-stakeholder platform to envision, design, commercialize, and scale innovations across African food systems. RFIP is the lean coordination and delivery platform for Rwanda's food innovation ecosystem, established to implement the Rwanda Food Innovation Ecosystem Strategy (RFIES) 2026 to 2035.

RFIP connects innovators, research institutions, regulators, financiers, private sector and development partners into a single navigable pathway, so food innovations move from idea to market, and from Rwanda to the continent.

The ambition is deliberate: to build systems that deliver improved food security and nutrition, dignified jobs, and sustainable economic transformation in Rwanda and across Africa.

Global food systems are changing in nearly every facet — this is where Africa's food future is being built.

Build in Rwanda. Scale across Africa.

THE OPPORTUNITY

● RWANDA FOOD INNOVATION ● PARTNERSHIP | Building Africa's ● Food Future

Rwanda is not starting from scratch. It ranks #1 in Africa on both the Corruption Perception Index and the World Bank B-READY regulatory framework, and already has proof-of-concept credentials in drone delivery, digital ID, and mobile money. What it has not yet had is a system that connects these strengths into a single innovation pathway for food. RFIP is that system.



60%

of employment depends on agriculture and food systems.



40%

of perishable produce is lost after harvest, a gap innovation can close.



27%

of Rwandan children under five are stunted, which is largely preventable.

These outcomes persist not because Rwanda lacks resources, but because its innovation resources are not connected. RFIP was built to close that gap.

THE CASE FOR INVESTMENT

Five Numbers That Define Our Ambition



30,000 new jobs
Targeted for youth
by 2035.



18 Months Innovation Cycle
Innovation-to-market cycle
shortened to less than 18
months by 2035.



90 Days
90 days maximum sandbox
dossier-to-decision time, and
less than 60 days by 2035.



USD 600M cumulative
economic benefit unlocked
by 2035.



Zero Food Loss
Zero food loss by 2035 –
first country in Africa.



OUR MANDATE

What RFIP Delivers

RFIP is the dedicated implementation vehicle for the Rwanda Food Innovation Ecosystem Strategy. It adds coordination, not another layer of authority. Existing institutional mandates remain exactly where they are: regulation and approvals, investment attraction and promotion, policy making, standards, and research all continue to sit with the institutions that hold them. RFIP is a neutral public-private platform that connects finance, know x1am and technology across the system, through six core



Finance Catalyser

Channels investment and links innovators to funding through a variety of financing mechanisms available in the national and international ecosystem.



Knowledge Catalyser

Facilitates access to research, data, and strategic intelligence, and brings global expertise to identified gaps.



Technology Catalyser

Accelerates development, validation, and deployment of innovative technologies — prototyping, transfer, and scale-up.



Front Door

A single-entry point where any food innovator in Rwanda receives intake, screening, and referral within 5 working days.



Feedback Loops

Embeds monitoring and evaluation that routes performance data back to government for real-time policy adjustment.



Branding & Positioning

Communicates Rwanda's food innovation identity and value proposition nationally and internationally.



OUR PROGRAMS

Four Accelerators, One Ecosystem



Policy & Regulatory Accelerator **A predictable pathway to market**

Design of the Food Innovation Regulatory Sandbox, support to Government on policy reform for food innovation, and capacity building for regulators and practitioners. Target: under 60 days from complete dossier to decision and 50+ pilots in the sandbox by 2035.



Investment Accelerator

The most enabling place in the region to test global food innovation

Providing dedicated facilitation to the private sector. Mobilising 50+ agri-food companies to invest in testing, adapting and scaling innovations in Rwanda and across the continent. Connecting projects to financiers and co-investors.



Venture & SME Accelerator **Rwanda's next generation of food innovators**

Venture support scaling to 25+ ventures per year, raising commercialisation and startup survival rates.



Human Capital Accelerator **Building the talent the economy requires**

A specialised skills pipeline delivering 500+ graduates and 200+ trained regulators and professionals per year by 2035, partnerships with global universities and institutes, and strengthened R&D infrastructure.



FOUR INNOVATION PRIORITY DOMAINS

Modern Production Technologies

Improved seeds and climate resilient varieties, soil health, precision agriculture, and AI-enabled advisory services.

Ambition: an exemplar country for sustainable production innovation.

Strengthening the Middle of the Value Chain

Cold chain innovation, low-cost storage, digital traceability, circular economy, and sustainable packaging.

Ambition: first country in Africa to achieve zero food loss by 2035.

Protein Diversification

Feed-first efficiency, fermentation and biomass pathways, and competitively priced plant-based alternatives.

Ambition: affordable proteins for Rwanda and for export to the region.

Nutrition, Health & Biotech Innovation

Biofortified crop varieties at price parity, fortified product commercialisation, and livestock and plant protection biologicals.

Ambition: reduce stunting from 27% to below 15% by 2029.



THE RFIP PARTNERS GROUP

Collaborate. Contribute. Shape Africa's food innovation future.

The RFIP Partners Group is the collaboration and coordination platform for Rwanda's food innovation ecosystem. It brings together the public sector, private sector, development partners, research institutions, and civil society to support implementation of the Rwanda Food Innovation Ecosystem Strategy (RFIES) 2026-2035, under the leadership of the Government of Rwanda.

It is a collaboration and coordination platform, not a financing vehicle. Its purpose is to align the efforts of organizations already investing expertise, resources, and capabilities in Rwanda's food system, so that individual initiatives add up to ecosystem-level results rather than running in parallel.

Rwanda's food innovation ecosystem needs four things at once: the Government of Rwanda's mandate to move quickly within a clear regulatory framework; development partners' program capital to de-risk early-stage ideas; private sector partners' innovation pipeline and

market access to bring solutions to scale; and research institutions' knowledge base to keep the whole system evidence-led. No single actor can supply all four, which is precisely why the Partners Group exists.

What partners do together

- Coordinate ecosystem priorities and reduce duplication.
- Shape RFIP programs, accelerators, and Innovation Challenges.
- Share research, data, market intelligence, and expertise.
- Connect innovators, investors, institutions, and markets.
- Develop partnerships, pilots, and co-investment opportunities.
- Champion Rwanda's food innovation ambition nationally and internationally.

RFIP will seek to optimize the contributions of all partners in the ecosystem rather than replace them. The Partners Group exists to strengthen coordination across the ecosystem and to make every mandate-holder's work faster and more effective.

PARTNERS GROUP

PUBLIC SECTOR



MINAGRI



MINICT



MINEDUC



PRIVATE SECTOR



SunCulture

Food Systems
For the Future
Institute



RESEARCH & ACADEMIA



Clean Cooling
Network
Created in Rwanda



ACES
Pan-Africa in Vision



UNIVERSITY OF
GREENWICH
Natural Resources
Institute



WAGENINGEN
UNIVERSITY & RESEARCH



RICA
Rwanda Institute For
Conservation Agriculture

DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS



RWANDA
GREEN FUND
Financing Green Growth



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS



AGRA
Alliance for Green Revolution
in Africa



WORLD
RESOURCES
INSTITUTE



RYAF
Rwanda Youth in
Agribusiness Forum



AFRICAN
CENTURY
GROUP



GanzAfrica



gain
Global Alliance for
Improved Nutrition



RICA
Seed Center



TONY BLAIR
INSTITUTE FOR
GLOBAL CHANGE



HEAR
Horticulture Exporters
Association of Rwanda



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C4impact
Advisory Group

JOIN US – Visit www.rfip.rw for more information

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